

Greetings from
Acting Governor Richard J. Codey,
and
NJAA President William Gehlhaus

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) understands that there is no higher priority for government than to keep our families safe at home, in school and at play. In partnership with the New Jersey Amusement Association, we are making sure that our state's carnival and amusement parks remain among the best and safest in the nation.

The NJAA and DCA have long demonstrated their commitment to ride safety, helping New Jersey become a national leader. This innovative and collaborative effort between a state agency and private organization provides an even greater opportunity to heighten public awareness and educate families about what they can do to enhance safety while visiting New Jersey's amusement parks.

With helpful information on easy safety precautions, this brochure is designed to give you a simple checklist of your responsibilities while enjoying amusement rides. It also outlines New Jersey's safety standards and laws, so you are aware of parks' responsibilities, as well.

The NJAA and DCA remain dedicated to providing a safe, fun-filled environment for the public throughout New Jersey's carnivals and amusement parks. We encourage you to share the information in this brochure and to re-visit it before going to any amusement park. Together, we can make sure you and your family are "Ready to Ride."



Richard J. Codey
Acting Governor



William Gehlhaus
President NJAA

Are You Ready To Ride?

The DOs of Ride Safety

Before You Get on a Ride:

- ☑ Do observe each ride before participating – make sure you are comfortable with it
- ☑ Do look for the posted State of New Jersey certificate of operation – this document ensures rides are inspected and have passed the stringent safety regulations required by the state
- ☑ Do read and obey all written and verbal warnings and instructions
- ☑ Do observe age, height and weight, and other physical restrictions for each ride

Before the Ride Begins:

- ☑ Do fasten safety equipment such as a seatbelt, shoulder harness, lap bar or chain
- ☑ Do secure all clothing and personal possessions
- ☑ Do follow instructions of ride operators

While the Ride is in Motion:

- ☑ Do keep hands, arms, legs and feet inside the ride at all times

Before Getting off of the Ride:

- ☑ Do keep all safety equipment fastened until the operator instructs you to exit
- ☑ Do stay in the ride until it comes to a complete stop and wait for the operator to tell you to get out
- ☑ Do enter or dismount a ride only in the area instructed by the ride operator

The DON'Ts of Ride Safety

- ✗ Don't throw any object from an amusement ride or attraction
- ✗ Don't endanger or injure yourself or others around you on the ride by behaving in a reckless manner
- ✗ Don't enter any ride that you are uncomfortable with or that your child fears
- ✗ Don't horseplay around, on or near a ride at any time
- ✗ Don't enter a ride without the supervision of the ride operator
- ✗ Don't bring food or drinks on any ride, and don't smoke



Child Safety

Parents should take several additional safety precautions for their children, especially small children, when participating in amusement rides or attractions.

Parents should:

- ☑ Know your child's capabilities and limitations with regard to whether the ride is appropriate for them
- ☑ Watch the ride in operation before entering to make sure your child can ride it safely
- ☑ Remind your child of Ride Safety 'Dos' and 'Don'ts'
- ☑ Remind your child to stay seated, hold on to safety bars and obey the ride operator's instructions
- ☑ Designate an easily recognizable place to meet your child after the ride is over
- ☑ Supervise your child at all times

Safety is the most important component of every family outing. New Jersey's amusement parks, fairs, carnivals and attractions are some of the best in the country and are designed to entertain every member of your family. So the next time you visit your favorite amusement park, fair or carnival, just remember to be **"Ready to Ride."**

Ride Safety Standards

Since 1975, the NJAA has worked with DCA to provide safe rides and attractions within the state. Rides and attractions at state amusement parks, fairs and carnivals that receive permits to operate have passed a state inspection and have been found to meet stringent state safety standards. Rides and attractions are maintained and inspected daily by ride owners and operators.

State Law

State Law requires that each rider obey all written warnings and directions regarding the ride and refrain from behaving in a reckless manner, which may cause or contribute to injuries to the rider or others. Failure to comply is a violation of the law and subject to penalty.

State Law states that a rider should not board or attempt to board any amusement ride if he /she is under the influence of alcoholic beverages or any substance which affects the riders' ability to use the ride safely and to abide by the posted instructions.

State Law References: NJAC 5:14A-3.2 & 3.3
NJAC 5:14A-9.33
NJAC 5:14A-9.34



Partners in Safety



The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is a state agency created to provide administrative guidance, financial support and technical assistance to local governments, community development organizations, businesses and individuals to improve the quality of life in New Jersey. DCA's Division of Codes & Standards establishes and enforces various codes to protect the health and safety of New Jersey citizens, and its Amusement Ride Safety Program administers ongoing inspection programs related to public safety, including carnival and amusement ride safety.

**NJ Department of Community Affairs
Division of Codes & Standards
Amusement Ride Safety Program
101 South Broad Street – PO Box 808
Trenton, NJ 08625-0808**

**(609) 292-2097
www.nj.gov/dca/codes**



The New Jersey Amusement Association (NJAA) is an organization for those involved in the state's amusement industry and is proactive in identifying industry concerns, while working for the safety, health and overall economic betterment of the amusement industry. The members are dedicated to presenting clean, safe, entertaining amusement rides, shows, food, games and concessions that best serve the public and promote New Jersey's amusement industry, carnivals, festivals, agricultural fairs and other outdoor events.

**New Jersey Amusement Association
PO Box 178
Seaside Heights, NJ 08751**

**(732) 363-2012
www.njamusements.com**

**For more information about
carnival and amusement
ride safety, contact:**



**NJ Department of Community Affairs
(609) 292-2097
www.nj.gov/dca/codes**



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2005 Season

Are You Ready To Ride?



A Guide to Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety

Brought to you by
the State of New Jersey
Department of Community Affairs'
Division of Codes & Standards and
the New Jersey Amusement Association